

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 104187

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

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FOLLOWING REPEAT CAIRO 3205 ACTION AMMAN INFO SECSTATE USDOC
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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CAIRO 3205

E.O. 11652: N/A

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SUBJECT: TAIWAN BUSINESSMEN VISITS TO EGYPT

REF: AMMAN 2812

1. WE CONSIDER IT INADVISABLE TO MAKE REPRESENTATIONS IN EGYPT TO OBTAIN INVITATION FROM CAIRO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OR OTHERS FOR NATIONALIST CHINESE BUSINESSMEN. DOING SO WILL AT ONCE GIVE EGYPTIANS IMPRESSION THAT SUCH VISITORS HAVE SOME OFFICIAL STATUS AND EVEN PRIVATE EGYPTIAN ORGANIZATIONS MAY THEN BE EXPECTED TO SEEK OFFICIAL GOE COUNSEL. ANSWER WILL BE NEGATIVE SINCE GOE VALUES ITS RELATIONS WITH PEKING AND WILL LEAN OVER BACKWARDS TO AVOID GIVING PRC AMBASSADOR HERE ANY CAUSE TO PROTEST.

2. WE SUGGEST FOLLOWING ALTERNATIVES WHICH ROC EMBASSY MAY WISH TO CONSIDER: (A) CHINESE BUSINESSMEN COULD SEND TELEGRAM TO
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CAIRO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE INDICATING INTEREST IN VISITING CAIRO

IN ORDER TO EXPLORE COMMERCIAL OPPORTUNITIES AND REQUEST
EXPRESSION OF WILLINGNESS ON PART OF CHAMBER TO RECEIVE THEM;
(B) SINCE AIRPORT VISAS CAN NORMALLY BE EASILY OBTAINED AT
CAIRO AIRPORT, CHINESE BUSINESSMEN MIGHT SIMPLY ARRANGE TO FLY
HERE WITHOUT NOTICE, ASK FOR AIRPORT VISA ON ARRIVAL, AND
THEREAFTER MAKE CONTACTS WITH EGYPTIAN BUSINESSMEN. LATTER OPTION
IS MORE INFORMAL, BUT ADMITTEDLY INVOLVES RISK THAT VISITOR MAY
BE REFUSED AIRPORT VISA. FOR THIS REASON, PRUDENT PROCEDURE IF
SECOND OPTION IS FOLLOWED WOULD BE TO SEND ONE BUSINESSMAN ON
A TRIAL BASIS.
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